



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Iowa Finance Authority Certifies Six Community Housing Development Organizations and Provides Assistance through the HOME program

Housing organizations in Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Decorah, Des Moines, Iowa City and Spencer now eligible to receive funding through the HOME program's CHDO Set-Aside

Des Moines, Iowa – The Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) Board of Directors recently certified and recertified a total of six nonprofit organizations located in Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Decorah, Des Moines, Iowa City and Spencer as Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), allowing them to be eligible for specific HOME program funding, and provided a total of \$100,000 in grants to assist two eligible CHDOs with operating expenses.

“Maintaining strong public and private partnerships with organizations throughout the state is central to the Iowa Finance Authority’s mission to most effectively advance affordable housing for Iowans,” said Iowa Finance Authority Executive Director Dave Jamison. “The partnerships with the recently certified and recertified CHDOs will increase the capacity to develop affordable housing throughout the state, and the Iowa Finance Authority is proud to call these organizations partners in advancing our common missions.”

A CHDO is a private, nonprofit, community-based service organization whose primary purpose is to provide and develop decent, affordable housing for the community it serves. IFA certifies CHDOs by confirming that the nonprofit organization meets HOME requirements and is eligible for HOME funding to develop affordable housing. A CHDO must annually recertify its CHDO status by providing updated information on the organization and its affordable housing projects.

CHDO Certifications:

- **Home Opportunities Made Easy, Inc., Des Moines**
Contact: Pam Carmichael, Executive Director, 515.243.1277
- **Affordable Housing Network, Inc., Cedar Rapids**
Contact: Joe Lock, Executive Director, 319.364.0259 ext. 24

CHDO Recertifications

- **Community Housing Initiatives, Inc., Spencer**
Contact: Doug LaBounty, President, 712.262.5640
- **Vera French Housing Corporation, Davenport**
Contact: Stacey Kiser-Willey, Executive Director, 563.445.7977

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- **The Housing Fellowship, Iowa City**

Contact: Maryann Dennis, Executive Director, 319.358.9212 ext. 5

- **Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation, Decorah**

Contact: Mary Ann Humpal, Executive Director, 563.382.8436

Participating jurisdictions, including the state of Iowa, are required to set-aside at least 15 percent of their HOME funds for housing that is developed, owned or sponsored by Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). The Iowa Finance Authority recently awarded a total of \$100,000 in HOME funds to assist two CHDOs with operating expenses. To be eligible for HOME operating expense awards, a CHDO must first have been allocated affordable housing project funding under the CHDO Set-Aside.

HOME Awards:

- **Community Housing Initiatives, Inc., Spencer: \$50,000**

Contact: Doug LaBounty, President, 712.262.5640

- **The Housing Fellowship, Iowa City: \$50,000**

Contact: Maryann Dennis, Executive Director, 319.358.9212 ext. 5

The Iowa Legislature created The Iowa Finance Authority, the state's housing finance agency, in 1975 to undertake programs to assist in the attainment of housing for low and moderate-income Iowans.

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